

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a current location of a wireless communication device in a wireless communication network comprising:

receiving a request for said current location from a requesting party;

verifying that said requesting party is an authorized party;

when said requesting party is said authorized party, activating a location determination process to determine said current location of said wireless communication device; and

supplying an indicator of said current location to said requesting party.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising establishing, prior to said receiving operation, a user profile for said wireless communication device, said user profile containing an identifier for said authorized party.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said verifying operation comprises matching a requesting party identifier of said requesting party with said identifier of said authorized party.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising detecting, prior to said receiving operation, a log-in attempt at a web page of a service provider of said wireless communication network, said request being received via said

web page following successful completion of said log-in attempt.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said request includes a dialing number of said wireless communication device.

6. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said activating operation comprises:

predicting a potential location area of said wireless communication device; and

initiating said location determination process in said potential location area.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said predicting operation comprises determining said potential location area in response to wireless communication between said wireless communication device and a transceiver site of said wireless communication network.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said determining operation comprises ascertaining a coverage area in which said wireless communication device is currently located, said coverage area being said potential location area.

9. A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said service provider maintains a comprehensive call history database of said wireless communication network, said comprehensive call history database including call records of past calls in which said wireless communication device participated, and said determining operation comprises ascertaining said

EXPRESS MAIL NO. ET503410079US

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 01-4067

potential location area from said comprehensive call history database.

10. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said current location is identified by a latitude and a longitude.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10 further comprising translating said latitude and said longitude into said indicator of said current location.

12. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said supplying operation comprises displaying said indicator of said current location on a map of a geographical area in which said wireless communication device is positioned.

13. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said supplying operation comprises providing said indicator of said current location via a web page.

14. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said supplying operation includes presenting a time at which said wireless communication device is at said current location.

15. A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising periodically repeating said activating and supplying operations to track a movement of said wireless communication device.

16. A method for supplying a current location of a wireless communication device within a wireless communication network, said method comprising:

providing a first web page having a requester log-in section;

following detection of a successful log-in attempt at said requester log-in section, providing a second web page having a device identifier field; and

following detection of a device identifier of said wireless communication device in said device identifier field, providing a third web page having a map of a geographical area overlaid with an indicator of said current location, said current location being determined by activating a location determination process.

17. A method as claimed in claim 16 further comprising presenting in said third web page a time at which said wireless communication device is at said current location.

18. A method for providing a current location of a wireless communication device within a wireless communication network, said method comprising:

establishing a user profile for said wireless communication device, said user profile containing an identifier for an authorized party;

receiving a request for said current location from a requesting party;

verifying that said requesting party is said authorized party;

when said requesting party is said authorized party, activating a location determination process to determine a

latitude and a longitude of said current location of said wireless communication device; and

supplying said current location to said requesting party by displaying an indicator of said current location on a map of a geographical area in which said wireless communication device is located.

19. A method as claimed in claim 18 wherein said activating operation comprises:

predicting a potential location area of said wireless communication device; and

initiating said location determination process in said potential location area.

20. A method as claimed in claim 18 further comprising translating said latitude and said longitude into said indicator of said current location.

21. A computer-readable storage medium containing executable code for instructing a server system to provide a current location of a wireless communication device within a wireless communication network over the Internet, said executable code instructing said server system to perform operations comprising:

providing a first web page having a requester log-in section;

providing a second web page having a device identifier field following detection of a successful log-in attempt at said requester log-in section; and

providing a third web page having a map of a geographical area overlaid with an indicator of said current location following detection of a device identifier of said

wireless communication device in said device identifier field, said current location being determined by activating a location determination process.

22. A computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21 wherein said executable code further instructs said server system to perform an operation comprising presenting in said third web page a time at which said wireless communication device is at said current location.

23. A computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 21 wherein said executable code further instructs said server system to perform operations comprising:

determining whether said requesting party is an authorized party by accessing a user profile for said wireless communication device, said user profile containing an identifier for said authorized party; and

providing an access denial web page when a requesting party identifier of said requesting party fails to match said identifier of said authorized party.